

JUL 19 2005

PATENT
450100-3752.1IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

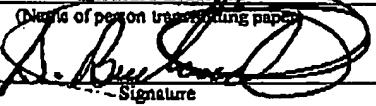
Applicants : Hiroaki Kitano, et al.
 Serial No. : 09/910,288
 For : INFORMATION RETRIEVAL APPARATUS AND
 METHOD
 Filed : July 20, 2001
 Examiner : Steven HD Nguyen
 Art Unit : 2665

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Steven
6/15/05*

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New York, NY 10151

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on April 19, 2005, having a three-month statutory period for response set to expire on July 19, 2005, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the above-captioned application as follows.